



CALPEEK

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DEMO GOV. DAVIS LEADS SIMON IN FIELD SURVEY

The newest Field Poll (released 7/11) has Gov. Gray Davis (D) leading his GOP rival Bill Simon Jr. by a 7-point margin: 41% to 34%, with 16% undecided and 9% for third party candidates. In a late February Field survey, Simon led Davis 44% to 42%; then in April Davis surged ahead 43% to 29%. Now Simon has closed the gap with Davis. The poll was taken June 25-July 2 among 647 likely voters...

CALIF. BUDGET WARS: HOW LONG WILL MINORITY GOP ASSEMBLY HOLD DAVIS & BUDGET HOSTAGE?

Editor's note: For 3 years in a row Gov. Gray Davis (D) and the Calif. Legislature were able to produce Calif. budgets ON TIME. And Davis definitely liked to brag about this. 2002 is an election year and with a \$23.6 billion deficit this year's budget is late. Is this politics or does the GOP really have a point to make? Here's our analysis & commentary...

...The Calif. Senate's version of this \$98.9 billion 2002-03 budget was approved in late June on a 27-13 vote – exactly the 2/3rds necessary, with GOP Sen. Maurice Johannessen of Redding crossing party lines. Thus far Gov. Davis and Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson have been unable to break off at least 4 GOP assembly members to combine with 50 Demos votes to pass the budget. And therein is one of the key problems Calif. continues to face: requiring a 2/3rds vote instead of a majority vote to pass a budget...

...The Assembly GOPs' main argument against this particular budget is that it raises TAXES. Davis' 2002-03 budget has \$3.9 billion in tax hikes. But remember 1991, when former Gov. Pete Wilson (R) faced a big deficit and had \$7.2 billion in tax hikes. Get the picture? Assembly GOPers' big dispute with Davis is over the vehicle license fee – or car tax as some call it. In Gov. Wilson's last budget, the Legislature began to gradually reduce the VLF fee. Now faced with a monster deficit, Gov. Davis and Demos are proposing that the fee reduction be rolled back to where it was in Wilson's last budget – thus saving \$1.3 billion. Not unreasonable...

...Davis prefers this VLF roll back and has rejected calls

from Demos to raise income taxes on Calif.'s wealthiest individuals. As sources note, raising income or sales taxes does not help because under Prop. 98, 40-60% of that new revenue would have to go to education. Under Davis' budget education is already well funded – in fact GOP Senate Leader Jim Brulte says Davis has over funded 98 in the new budget. Is Prop. 98 out of control? There are those on both sides who think so, but now is not the time to fix it...

...Is there another way to save \$1.3 billion and keep the VLF where it is now? YES, but it's the doomsday scenario for local government. When the State took over the VLF program, it agreed to backfill local government – because originally cars were considered personal property and subject to county property taxes. If the GOP won't give, Davis may be forced to cut the \$1.3 billion in local backfill. This would mash health care and law enforcement. And who would get the blame for the local disaster? GOP members of the State Assembly, if you believe recent Demo polling...

...But it may not come to that. Davis and his Demo allies are still hoping to peel off 4 GOPers – but sources say there is intense pressure being applied by the GOP Caucus and even by the RNC and some say the White House. It's all aimed at making Davis look bad. How much longer? For a while longer, sources predict. On the other hand, some of these GOPers who are fence sitting are coming under heavy pressure from local law enforcement to break the deadlock. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2002: BOTH SIDES IN "EDVR" INITIATIVE CONTEST NOW WAGING AN ENDORSEMENT BATTLE

Editor's note: EDVR, for the uninformed, is Election Day Voter Registration. This initiative sponsored by deep pocketed S.F. businessman/foundation head Robert McKay has qualified for the Nov. 5th ballot. If approved, an individual with the proper ID can register to vote the same day as the election. Needless to say there is opposition to this proposal. Here's a brief update...

...On the surface, EDVR sounds like a reasonable idea, but opponents are yelling fraud. And this is the one point where

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Citizens & Law Enforcement Against Election Fraud will make their stand in the fall. Excerpts from a *San Diego Union-Tribune* article about EDVR has been faxed to political reporters quoting one of the key attorneys who drafted the initiative: Chip Nielsen of Nielsen Merksamer et al. The key quote lifted from the U-T story is this: *...opponents have zeroed in on fraud as the initiative's most vulnerable feature... (Chris) Wysocki objected that the initiative also ends the practice of separating out disputed ballots, provision ballots, for processing after the election. "If there's an investigation into election fraud, there's no way to determine which ballots we're talking about," he said. Nielsen acknowledged the identification provision was the subject of much debate among proponents as the initiative was being drafted. "It's not perfect," he said... It only takes one flaw to sink an initiative, but the key is being able to communicate to voters via TV...*

...To make their fraud case, CLEAEF has begun to line up endorsements from a number of DAs and county sheriffs. Among the DAs are Ventura's Mike Bradbury, Kern's Ed Jagels and Contra Costa's Gary Yancey. County Sheriffs who are opposed include Santa Barbara's Jim Thomas, Mendocino's Tony Craver and Ventura's Bob Brooks. What's impressive, however, is that EDVR opponents claim to have lined up *8 county election officials* thus far: these include Richard Dean(Ventura); Debby Hench(San Joaquin); Lee Lundrigan(Stanislaus); Deanna Brown(Merced); Vicki Frazer(Del Norte); Mary Jungi(Sierra); Mischelle Townsend(Riverside); Renn Nolan(Mono)...

...While the CLEAEF has a solid list of names, the big question boils down to money. CLEAEF has a proposed budget of \$5 million, but many sources say that's nothing but wishful thinking...

...The proponents, *Californians for Election Day Registration*, are fighting back with their own law & order endorsements and note that under the current law no ID whatsoever is required for registration. Under EDVR, a photo ID is required and if a driver's license or CA ID card is not available, then two other IDs are required, as spelled out by SOS Bill Jones(R), who is officially neutral...

...The only DA thus far to back EDVR is Riverside Co.'s Grover Trask, but L.A. City Atty. Rocky Delgadillo has endorsed it. County Sheriffs backing EDVR include Yolo's Ed Prieto, L.A. Co.'s Lee Baca; Contra Costa's Warren Rupt; Santa Clara's Laurie Smith and Monterey Co.'s Gordon Sonne...

...FYI: Among partisan elected officeholders, the NO

side doesn't list any Demos. On the YES side, it's mostly Demos, but former L.A. Mayor and GOP primary candidate for governor Richard Riordan is listed as supporter of EDVR. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2002: PRINGLE AND 3 THREES OTHERS BATTLING TO BECOME ANAHEIM'S NEXT MAYOR.

Editor's note: Anaheim is Calif.'s 10th largest city, with 334,700 people – of which 111,529 are registered to vote in the upcoming Nov. 5th race to replace termed out Mayor Tom Daly, one of the few Demos to hold non-partisan office in Orange County. GOPers are anxious to recapture this important post, while Demos are just as anxious to hold it. Here's our first look at this contest...

...Filing for Anaheim Mayor (and two council seats) opens July 15th and will remain open for a month. Thus far the field includes Anaheim Councilmembers Lucille Kring and Frank Feldhaus; former GOP Assembly Speaker Curt Pringle; and former La Habra & Belmont Police Chief Steve Staveley. Although the post is supposedly non-partisan, Kring, Feldhaus and Pringle are Republicans, while Staveley is a registered Demo. Party registration in Anaheim might seem to favor a Republican (41,114 Demos vs. 50,292 GOP and 15,478 DTS). However...

...The Nov. 5th battle is a *winner-take-all* event and with 3 well known GOPers in this contest, it's possible that Staveley could win. Remember: this particular part of Orange Co. does have some elected Demo officeholders, including U.S. Rep. Loretta Sanchez, State Sen. Joe Dunn and CA Assemblyman Lou Correa. Thus far (and we emphasize thus far), Staveley is the only Demo in this race. But it's always possible some other credible Demo could enter the contest – or it's possible that some *not-so-credible* Demo might enter. One should not forget 1995 – in the special Orange Co. recall of the late Doris Allen. No reason to rehash all the messy details, but several GOP operatives were convicted of election fraud for recruiting a "decoy Democrat" to insure the election of GOPer Scott Baugh to the Assembly. Bottomline: Demos will be watching...

...And while some might suggest that Pringle has a lock on most of the GOP support and endorsements, Kring is a member of the Orange Co. Republican Party Central Cmt. and has close ties to Anaheim's business community. In terms of name ID, Feldhaus served on the council from 1992-96 and was reelected in 1998. Both Kring and Feldhaus are giving up their safe seats to run – and both have one more term (under Anaheim's term limit law of no more than 8 consecutive years)...

...Most sources expect Pringle to be well funded and he's already hired his former chief of staff – Jeff Flint of the newly formed campaign firm *CommandFocus*. No word yet about Kring or Feldhaus. As for Staveley, he's hired Long Beach-based Adler Public Affairs. The former PD chief has been an Anaheim resident for 30 years and is a 4-term member of the Magnolia Elementary School Board, thus he's no stranger to elective politics. The big question about Staveley is whether he can raise a credible campaign war chest. If he can, then this battle could get real interesting. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN 2002: NEW POLLING BY L.A. TIMES GIVES MIXED SIGNALS OVER THE SECESSION MOVEMENTS

Editor's note: A new poll released July 2nd shows that voters in the San Fernando Valley do want to leave L.A., while voters in Hollywood want to stay. The tale of two wannabe cities. The *L.A. Times* poll was taken June 20-28 among 1,291 voters in L.A. City. Here's a update & analysis...

...Secession supporters in the Valley and Hollywood aren't thrilled with the results of this new *L.A. Times* poll and are *blaming the messenger* – saying the polling data is flawed. In **Hollywood** itself only 24% of those who live there want a divorce from L.A. City, while 61% say they want to the "marriage" to continue. In the entire city of L.A., only 25% of the voters would allow the split vs. 59% who would vote against it. At this point, the Hollywood secession drive is not going to be successful. Just not enough support from the Hollywood community itself...

...It's a different story, however, in the **San Fernando Valley**, where secessionists have been working for a divorce for years. A solid 52% of Valley voters would vote YES on secession vs. 37% opposed. Citywide, however, the Valley secessionists have lots of work to do, as only 29% are in favor of a divorce vs. 53% against...

...Subgroups in the polling offer some interesting data: 1) strongest support for a new city is in the West Valley, where 59% favor secession; 2) 66% of all GOPers in L.A. favor the split; 3) race is NOT driving the secession movement; 4) 46% of Valley voters think that a new Valley city also means a divorce from the L.A. School District; and 5) 57% think the new city should be called *San Fernando Valley*...

...FYI: As *Calpeek* hit deadline, the L.A. City Council was rushing to put a borough system charter amendment on the Nov. 5th ballot. But sources think this proposal will just confuse voters – and it's just too little, too late. Stay tuned...

WAR ON TERROR: JULY 4TH ATTACK AT LAX WAS A WAKEUP CALL TO U.S. AIRPORTS ARE NOT SECURE.

Editor's note: While the various committees in the U.S. House begin voting shortly on the creation of President George W. Bush's Homeland Security Department (the U.S. Senate should finish by the end of this month), the L.A. City Council has asked it's various public safety agencies to report on the July 4th incident where Hashem Mohamed Hadayat, 41, of Irvine, shot and killed two persons in the *El Al* terminal area at LAX. Here's a brief report...

...U.S. intelligence and law enforcement officials are still trying to figure out if Hadayat was linked to an organized terrorist group OR if he was simply carrying out an individual act of terror against Israel. There doesn't seem to be much dispute in Israel and there are emails making their way around the U.S. which suggest that Hadayat was in fact an a "sleeper agent" of *Egyptian Jihad*...

...According to *DEBKaf*file (an internet intelligence and anti-terrorism website), *El Al* security at LAX had Hadayat on their own watch list and had alerted LAX security about Hadayat some time ago. There's no way to confirm these allegations, but there's been no denial either. Hadayat had worked at LAX as a limo driver since 1993...

...*Guns & Politics*: it's unclear if the two handguns that Hadayat used in his attack were registered to him. Regardless, a 1998 law puts heavy restrictions on foreign nationals possessing guns while in the U.S. Could Calif. authorities have disarmed Hadayat? Yes. Under a bill carried by GOP Senate Leader Jim Brulte last year, the programming is in place, but the funding is in the State budget, now on hold...

...So what will the U.S. reaction be to the July 4th attack? U.S. Rep. Diane Watson (D-L.A.), wants the first line of security defense to be the airline ticket counters. And she says more security guards are needed at airports. Ditto U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D). Although the local law enforcement response to the shooting was adequate, had it not been for *El Al's* security, the incident could have been worse. The new Transportation Security Admin. is now responsible for airport security, but for now about 240 off duty LAPD officers will assist until TSA gets more personnel ready for duty...

...FYI: *Politics & 9-11*. 5-term U.S. Rep. Earl Hilliard of Alabama was defeated for reelection in the June 25th Demo primary by attorney Artur Davis. According to an AP report, Hilliard blamed his loss on heavy out-of-state funding from pro-Israel donors. Hilliard visited Libya in 1997 and had backing from Arab donors. Hilliard had of-

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ten sided with the Palestinians. Now keep your eyes on U.S. Rep. Cynthia McKinney of Georgia, who faces Demo Judge Denise Majette in an Aug. 20th primary. Stay tuned...

DOG DAYS OF SUMMER: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ ***New Davis TV Attack Ad*** – Another attack ad by *Team Davis*, this one called “Bronze” – as in Bronze Star that Capt. Gray Davis got during his Vietnam tour. The ad also goes after Bill Simon for his failure to vote in 13 of 20 elections since he registered in Calif. and again hits Simon for refusing to release his income tax records. Sources say this new ad will run in the S.F. Bay area, as well as on L.A. cable tv and all tv in the Central Valley. In the news release announcing this new tv spot, there's an interesting line: “While Gray Davis was serving as a U.S. Army captain in Vietnam, Bill Simon was serving as captain of his squash team at Williams College.” Williams College. Keep that institution in mind. FYI: Simon hasn't been up on tv for a while, but he's expected up soon with a new ad bashing Davis on the budget...

■ ***Will Alarcon Bow Out?*** Word on the street as *Calpeek* hit deadline is that State Sen. Richard Alarcon(D-San Fernando Valley) will NOT run for mayor of the proposed new Valley city...

■ ***New Poll in Insurance Commissioner's Race*** – This new poll was done for GOP candidate Gary Mendoza, who is facing an uphill battle against Demo John Garamendi, the former IC from 1990-94. This Public Opinion Strategies survey (6/30 to 7/2 among 600 registered voters) shows Garamendi leading by a 38% to 31% margin. A March survey by POS for Mendoza showed Garamendi out front with 44% vs. 29% for Mendoza...

■ ***Energy & Politics*** – No surprise as the U.S. Senate on July 9th voice voted in favor of establishing Yucca Mt. as the national nuclear waste depository. In May, the U.S. House voted 306 to 117 for the same thing. Both Calif. U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer(D) and Dianne Feinstein(D) were opposed. 77,000 tons of high level nuclear waste are due to be stored at this Nevada site, but that's years away and opponents still have legal options available...

■ ***Moving Calif.'s Primary*** – According to a new poll by Public Opinion Strategies(POS), Calif. voters don't have a problem with the early March primary. POS results show 46% want to keep the primary the first week in March vs.

26% who want to return to the first week in June. Only 10% want to move the primary to the first week in August. The poll was taken June 30-July 2 among 600 registered voters...

CALPEEK's CAMPAIGN 2002 POLITICAL GUIDE

Just a brief note to let you know that next week we'll be mailing our *Campaign 2002 Political Guide*. It's full of handy phone numbers & websites. You have our permission to reprint and distribute this Guide to your friends, clients & associates...

CALPEEK's NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Ellia Thompson, former press secretary to U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D-Venice), has been hired in DC as communications director for U.S. Rep. Louise Slaughter(D-NY), ranking Demo on U.S. House Rules Cmt...
- Seattle-based GOP cmp. consultant Mike Meyers has moved his Michael D. Meyers Co. office to 1803 42nd Ave. East, Seattle, WA 98112. (206)322-6730...
- U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D-Redondo Beach) has hired Evelyn Fierro as Sr. District Representative. The former So. Pasadena councilwoman worked in the Clinton Adm. as Director of Intergovt. Relations at DOT...
- GOP fundraiser Sabina Pellissier has joined Capital Campaigns in the firm's Sacto office...
- Dr. Luis de la Calle, ex deputy secretary for internat'l trade negotiations for the Mexican govt., has joined Public Strategies, Inc. as director of the PSI's Mexico City office...

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